SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, in the matter of scrap disposal occasionally such reports do come to us and each report is thoroughly examined, and if any people are found guilty punishment is meted out to them.

SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH: Is it a fact that a large amount of railway scrap is being every day stolen from Kalyan, Kasra and Nasik? How many cases have been detected so far and what is the estimated cost of such stolen property?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: The hon. Member will have to give a separate notice for this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. Next question.

SHRI SHANKARRAO NARAYANRAO DESHMUKH: It relates to scrap only.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. Next Question.

*123. [*The questioner (Shri D. B. Chandre Gowda) was absent. for answer,* Vide *Col.* 33-34 *infra*].

Art objects for the Festival of India in USSR

*124. SHRI VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether art objects are proposed to be sent to the Soviet Union for the proposed Festival of India, if so, the details of the art objects selected for the purpose; and

(b) what steps have been contemplated for their safety?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The lists are yet to be finalised.

(b) Every possible safety precaution including necessary security arrangements, care in packing, handling, transport and insurance to cover all risks will be taken.

SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering to stop the display of such precious objects abroad in future in the interest of their safety and preservation.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: We have entered into an agreement with the Soviet Union. There are certain criteria laid down in regard to what can be sent and what cannot be sent. The objects which cannot be sent are those which are very fragile or which are too precious for us to part with even temporarily. Barring those objects, we have agreed on both sides that the best that represents our respective cultures would be sent. These are the criteria. A Committee has been appointed. That Committee will go into each object and decide whether this has to be sent or not sent. If it is inferior, it will not be sent. If it is too precious, so precious that we cannot part with it under any circumstances, then it will not be sent. Subject to these two conditions, the best of what represents our culture will be sent. This is the arrangement on both sides.

श्री लालकृष्ण आडवाणी : सभापति जी, मुझे स्मरण है कि जब पिछले वर्ष अमरीका और फ्रांस में भारत महोत्सव हो रहा था, तब विवाद का एक प्रमुख विषय था कि इस प्रकार की कलाकृतियां हमको विदेश भेजनी चाहिएं कि नहीं जो कि अमल्य हैं और जिन पर थोड़ा सा आघात होता है, थोड़ी सी भी चोट पहुंचती है तो उससे बहुत बड़ी क्षति होती है । मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि इस मामले में हमारा अनुभव क्या रहा है ? पिछले साल जो कलाकृतियां विदेश गई थीं उनमें से कितनी ऐसी हैं जो खंडित हुई हैं, जिन को क्षति पहुंची है और उसके कारण हमको कुल कितना नुकसान हुआ है और इस सारे अनुभव के

संदर्भ में क्या सरकार इस बात पर विचार करेगी कि हम अपनी श्रेष्ठ कलाकृतियों को विदेश भेजने का प्रस्ताव छोड़ दें ?

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव : श्रीमन् इस साल जो अनुभव रहा वह कुल मिलाकर अच्छा रहा । यह सच है कि हमने जो कलाकृतियां भेजी थीं सैकड़ों की संख्या में उनमें से कुछ कलाकृतियों को थोड़ी सी क्षति पहुंची है । उसके लिए . .

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी : कितनी ?

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव : उसके लिए दूसरा सवाल आप कीजिए । वह सवाल आ रहा है है, उसका जवाब मेरे पास है, मैं जवाब दूंगा । लेकिन कुल मिलाकर हमको ऐसा नहीं लगता कि हम इस ख्याल को छोड़ दें । इसलिए हमने काफी सोच-विचार करने के बाद यह काम किया है और यह रेसिप्रोकल भी है । पहले जो हमने कलाकृतियां भेजी थीं वह निर्णय एकतरफा था, कोई रेसिप्रोकल नहीं था लेकिन अब वहां से भी यहां कलाकृतियां आएंगी और यहां से वहां जाएंगी । वे इसमें सावधानी लेंगे, हम इसमें सावधानी लेंगे । पिछले अनुभव से इतना ही हुआ है कि इसमें सावधानी अधिक लेनी होगी । लेकिन इसका नतीजा हमने यही निकाला है कि इस विचार को हमें नहीं छोड़ना चाहिए ।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, I have been pursuing this question for the last two sessions. Only last Wednesday a statement was placed on behalf of the Ministry. The question was: How much damage was done to various articles which had been sent abroad in the last India Abroad Exposition or whatever it is? The point is that now there is a discussion going on. Actually a controversy is going on between the Cultural Adviser to the Prime Minister and people like Karl Khandelwala or others who are expert and who have spent their lives in the preservation of culture of this country. There was some damage to Dindiraj Yaksh.

(*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ignore all interruptions.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Sir, the unique privilege of a Member of Parliament is interruptions.

Sir, the unique feature of Parliament is interruptions because when you have interruptions, you get a little energy. And Mr. Salve and some other friends are there.

AN HON. MEMBER: From the Chair also.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: From the Chair, they are always welcome. Sir, I will go to my question now. Sir, the Dindiraj Yaksha was damaged. Sir, as he said, it is a ministerial style saying that there was some damage and some money lost. But you have given categorisation and it has gone into crores of rupees. The one hankerchief from the Salarjung Museum of Hyderabad has gone. So, the basic point is the fact of this new wave of culture being brought up in this country as if we do not know what is culture and exporting our culture abroad..(*Interruption*). You are bringing something from Russia. But our heritage is more valuable than any other heritage. It is thousands of years old... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Mr. Kulkarni is afraid of Russia and fond of America, it seems.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kulkarni, did I not tell you not to hear the interruptions?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: How, Sir, the Communists are having

a culture at all? A new generation is coming up. I had not heard that the Communists had a culture whatsoever? Now, I want to know one thing from the Minister. Apart from the joke, Sir, I am very serious on one point. About these cultural items which you are sending abroad, it is even criticised that they are not being packed properly in the USA. They have broken and many items are stolen and substituted. What can I say? So, Mr. Minister do not take the protection by saying that everything is well and good. It is not like that. For heaven's sake, rise to the occasion and stop all this nonsense.

AN HON. MEMBER: Nonsense is not unparliamentary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nonsense is not unparliamentary.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: That is what I wanted to tell.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: It is only irrelevant, Sir.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, what is so common cannot be unparliamentary. Sir, Mr. Kulkarni has made such categorical statements that I feel like asking him a few supplementaries.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Chair will not permit.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: That is the only barrier, Sir.

Sir, the point is this. We have made an evaluation of what has been damaged. In fact, I would say, what we have come to conclude is not how much damage has been done but how little, considering the whole operation, the magnitude of the operation. So, by no stretch of imagination can we conclude that the past experience warrants a reversal of our decision. We have not come to that conclusion. If some hon. Member concludes otherwise, naturally he has a right to his views But it is not the view of the Government. And as I said, this is a reciprocal arrangement. There are committees on both sides. They are sending here their best art objects and we are sending there our best. So, I think, we should be quite satisfied on this score that what all is being damaged is grossly exaggerated and it does not warrant any reversal of our decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jaswant Singh.

AN HON. MEMBER: Are you satisfied, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am satisfied.

श्री लाल आडवाणी : जितना अधिक प्रोपोर्शन से भेजेंगे उतना काम हो जायेगा ।

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir. I am sure, it is an inadvertent statement by the Hon. Minister who is otherwise extremely careful of what he says. Now, I cannot consider that in the same breat the hon. Minister should talk of priceless objects invaluable items of heritage of this country but also that he is not concerned, the Government is not concerned about how much damage has been done, but actually how little damage has been done. This is an astounding statement to make because however little the damage...

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: It is the beauty of the object that...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Simultaneous questions are not allowed in this House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: If that is the philosophy underlying the exchange or export of items to ensure how little damage' is going to be

done, a priceless art object is a priceless art object and you cannot belittle the value. If Deedarganj gets a scratch on her cheek, it is not a little damage Mr. Minister. It is a damage which damages something which is of three centuries B.C. You could well bureacratically come to a conclusion that in Deedargani Yakshi's case a scratch has been made, therefore it is a little damage, and therefore you will ignore it. But, Sir, you are damaging many centuries of Indian heritage. And I do take a serious objection to the hon. Minister's statement that we are not bothered how much damage is done, but how little damage is done. Then, Sir, I would like to know who are the people who comprise this committee. Is it or is it not a fact that the Director of the National Museum is today involved in wholly unseemly controversy, with a very intent lady, who is supposed to be the Cultural Adviser to the Prime Minister? If the Director of the National Museum is not involved in an unseemly controversy precisely on this issue, then I think the hon. Minister. must come forward with much more than saying how little damage is done, not how much.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I am really surprised at the astounding distortion by the hon. Member. What I said is that considering the magnitude of what was sent from here, in that context I said it, I did not mean to say that we are condoning any damage howsoever little, but it was in a broad context that I made that statement and I have not been careful than usual in making that. Sir, it is true that some damage has been done but then when you compare it with the goodwill, when you compare it with the overall goodwill that we have earned the overall knowledge in other countries about our cluture, this is some thing of a reveleation. (*Interruptions*). Sir, this has been he opinion throughout the countries where we have had our exhibitions. So, as I said, Members can have their opinion. They are entitled to it. But my feeling, the Government's feeling is that on the whole, on balance, nothing has happened which would warrant a change in the decision or a reversal of the decision much less. So far as the controversy is concerned, Sir, I would certainly agree that in matters likes this, in matters of art and in matters of literature, controversies do occur and we are in a position to resolve the controversy and resolve we will.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: But, Sir, who constitutes the Committee? What is the composition of the Committee?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I will tell you. The expert and evaluation committee includes the Director, National Museum and the Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India and some of the experts in the field.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Pra shant.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, he mentioned... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right I will give one chance again to Mr. Advani or Mr. Kulkarni, one of you and you choose.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: But, Sir, the question about the committee was mine.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, he mentioned about the Director, National Museum, so pointedly, and I said, yes, he is a member of the Committee.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: What about the controversy of the Director of the National Museum?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have answered that. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Prashant. Only Mr. Prashant will go on record and he will put the question.

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the objects which were missing in the transaction or otherwise in the festivals held abroad included one gold tip of a hookah.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: That has been answered in this very House.

SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: And the hookah belonged to the Moghul period. The image of yakshi is the same image which Kalidasa refers to as his heroine in Meghadoot. These are rare antiques. What I want to say is that when such antiques, which are national properties are sent abroad, these should be accompanied by experts. But instead they are handed over to those who do not have any archaeological experience. Museum officers should in fact accompany these objects or antiques when they are sent abroad. This is the reason why these are damaged or missing.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: I have answered the other question about....

MR. CHAIRMAN: His suggestion is that you send expert along with your exhibits.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: We do send security personnel. About experts in archaeology, it is very difficult to say who is expert on a particular object, and it would not be practicable. In the usual course, I take the point made by hon. Member and see what can be done.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : मान्यवर, संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और फ्रांस में जो महोत्सव हुआ था, उसमे मेरी सूचना यह है कि 26 कला वस्तुएं, जिसमे यक्षी भा था ये सब क्षतिग्रस्त हो गए है और उसके हुक्के का मोनाल गायब हो गया है ।

तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह सही है कि पिछली बार जब महोत्सव हो रहा था . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are repeating the question.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: No, I am not repeating.

तो क्या यह सही है कि उस समय म्यूजियम के डाइरेक्टर डा० सिहारे ने इस बात पर आपत्ति की कि इस तरह की मूल्यवान कलाकृतिया विदेशों में भजी जाये क्योंकि अगर उनको कुछ नुकसान पहुंच जाएगा तो उनको रिप्लेस नही किया जा सकेगा

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव : जब कोई कमेटी बनाई जाती है तब उसके बारे में कि वहां क्या हुआ, उस कमेटी में बठकर किसने क्या कहा था यह नही कहा जा सकता है । कमेटी का फैसला यह हुआ और यह तै पाया कि ये चीजें भेजी जायें, इससे ज्यादा मैं क्या कह सकता हूं ।

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: My question about Director of Museum.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You are coolly assessing the thing. There is the question of antiques, our heritage. I request you, and not the Minister. You protect at least the heritage of this country by stopping all this type of culture export from this country which is being exploited by foreign antiques buyers. That is why I am against it, and cultural business and all these things are bogus. It has no meaning.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have no powers.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: My question was not answered. It was specific about the Director of Museum, Dr. Sihare.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has answered it. He said I cannot tell you what happened. There were discussions and he cannot disclose what happened in the committee. You said that Dr. Sihare said some thing. He cannot say anything about it.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: You have not directed either the Government or to us, whether you also feel like us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot do it.

SHRI A.G. KULKARNI: Then you are coolly statistically analysing every thing and you are not helping us. What is the use of that analysis and statistics.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right; Mr. Minister, please get up and say what you have to say.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Will you kindly tell me what I have to say? I have got up alright.

श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी : सभापति जी, पिछले सप्ताह जब इस विषय पर बात हुई और उसके उत्तर में जो तथ्य सरकार ने सदन में रखे, उन तथ्यों को देखकर और फिर अखबारों में पढ़कर और फिर उसके बाद आज जो थोड़ी बहुत इस प्रश्नोत्तर काल में चर्चा हुई है, इस चर्चा को ध्यान में रखकर सरकार इस बात पर पुनर्विचार करेगी या नहीं करेगी ? क्योंकि एक्सपर्ट कमेटी में, स्पष्ट है कि एकमत राय नहीं है और इसलिये एक्सपर्टस की राय का बहुमत किस तरफ है और किस तरफ नहीं है, यह इस महत्वपूर्ण सवाल पर निर्णायक नही होना चाहिए । अगर डाइरेक्टर आफ म्यूजियम भी इसी प्रकार से यदि कोई पुरातत्ववेत्ता भी इस मत का है, पिछले अनुभव के आधार पर, कि कलाकृत्तियां नहीं भेजी जानी चाहिए तो मैं चाहूंगा कि सरकार सदन में अभिव्यक्त भावना, जो मैं समझता हूं, किसी पार्टी तक सीमित नहीं है, उसको ध्यान में रखकर, इस बात पर पुनर्विचार करे । मंत्री जी बताये कि सरकार पुनर्विचार करेगी या नही करेगी ।

श्री पी० वी० नरसिंह राव : श्रीमन् यहां पर जो भी चर्चा होती है उसको ध्यान में रखने के बारे में कोई दो राय नही हैं । उनको हमेशा ध्यान में रखा जाता है और उस पर विचार किया जाता है । लेकिन जो इससे पहले विचार किया गया था और फैसला किया गया था उसको बदला जा सकता है या नहीं उसको रिवर्स किया जा सकता है या नही यह ऐसी बात है जिस पर मैं यहां कोई आश्वासन नही दे सकता । इसको ध्यान में जरूर रखा जायेगा इसमें कोई दो राय नही है कि जब हम किसी कलाकृति को बाहर भेजते हैं तो उसको क्षति नही पहुंचनी चाहिए । क्षति पहुंचने का सिलसिला इतना ज्यादा हो गया कि जो फायदा हमारा होता है उससे अधिक नुक्सान है तो नहीं भेजना चाहिये लेकिन मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि उस नतीजे पर नहीं पहुंचे है । क्षति पहुंची है जरूर कुछ कलाकृतियों को लेकिन कुल मिला कर हम इस नतीजे पर नहीं पहुंचे हैं कि हमारा जो पहले फैसला हुआ था उस को हम उल्ट दें । यही तो मैं कह रहा हूं ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. Shri Jagesh Desai.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Sir, I must protest. I had raised my hand definitly before Mr. Advani. Someone from this side should also be given an opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have spent twenty minutes on this.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: You may have, but there has to be...

MR: CHAIRMAN: Next question has been called. Please sit down.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: I will sit down. But there has to be some

procedure commensurate with discipline and fairplay.

(Interruptions)

Suburban trains in Bombay

*125. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways have introduced suburban trains with 12 carriages for the Western and Central Railways in Bombay;

(b) what is the number of such trains running with the Western and Central Railways;

(c) what are the names of the stations between which these trains are running; and

(d) what steps Government proposes to take to increase the number of trains and cover all the stations on suburban lines in Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) Central and Western Railways are utilising one 12-car EMU rake each for running eight trains between Bombay V. T./Dadar and Kalyan, and ten trains between Dadar and Virar, on an experimental basis only. The trials, which are still continuing, have brought out that a number of measures like remodelling of certain stations, extension of platforms, resiting of signals, augmentation of electric sub-stations, provision of quicker dispersal facilities at stations etc. will have to be undertaken and a detailed techno-economic examination will be required before introduction of regular running of 12car suburban services.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the year 1950-51, the total number of passengers carried by both the sections of suburban services in Bombay, that is, the Western Railway and the Central Railway, was 30 million annually. In the year 1980-81, it has gone up to 1,500 million. This means it has gone up by five times. As far as the number of services is concerned, in the year 1950-51, it was 750. In the year 1980-81, it went up to 1,579. This means, it has gone up by only two times whereas the number of passengers has gone up by five times. The result of this is that the carrying capacity of each train is 1,800, but actually, 4,000 passengers are being carried by each train.

In this background, we took up the matter with the Railway Minister. We had taken up the matter earlier with Mr. Bansi Lal and then with Mrs. Mohsina Kidwai. The only solution is that there should be twelve rakes in each train so that one-third more passengers can be carried and, to some extent, this will bring relief to the passengers. Now, only one drop of water has been poured into the sea. There will be an increase in the services to the extent of only one per cent with these 12 rakes and this will not solve the problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two minutes over.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Sir, a feasibility report was prepared as far back as in 1972. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what action Government have taken in these fourteen years after receiving the feasibility report on the running of 12 coach rakes in both the sections?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, I can only answer what action Government have taken in the year 1985-86. I have already mentioned that Mr. Desai's suggestion is a good one. It is something which is being implemented by way of trial. There are many facets to extending this 12 car service. The results of the trial will have to be examined before implementation on a much wider scale because it has very wide ramifications. It would